

# **LAFAYETTE COMMISSION ON THE NEEDS OF WOMEN**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**May 4, 2016**

**Members Present:** Ann E. Burruss, Elsie Jones-Azare, JoAnn LeJune, Trasima Richard, Kris Manuel-Sparks, Megan Morris, Marlice Young-Dugas, Martha Bryant, Brenda Andrus, Peggy Andrus, Fantacee Brown, Bernadette Castille, Christy Lenchan, Amy Deaville LCG Liaison

**Members Excused:** Deborah E. White, Sally Donolon

**Members Not Excused:** Claudia Hall

The meeting was called to order by Megan Morris at 5:31pm.

### **PURPOSE**

Marlice Young-Dugas read the purpose.

### **REFLECTION**

JoAnn LeJune read the reflection.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the April 7, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Martha Bryant to accept the minutes, seconded by Trasima Richard. Passed by unanimous vote.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Megan Morris presented correspondence.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Trasima Richard gave April 2016 treasurer's report. Motion made by Kris Manuel-Sparks to accept the report, seconded by Ann Burruss. Passed by unanimous vote.

Trasima Richard gave May 2016 treasurer's report. Motion made by Jennifer Webre to accept the report, seconded by JoAnn LeJune. Passed by unanimous vote.

See attached reports for breakdown of expenses.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**President:** No report.

**Membership/Hospitality:** Brenda Andrus reported that new member application interviews were held and that the Commission interviewed seven (7) applicants and after interviews and reviewing the applications, four (4) women were selected. They are: Peggy Andrus, Fantacee Brown, Bernadette Castille and Christy Lenchan.

Brenda also reported that the WOE committee meeting was held at Don's Restaurant in April with only three (3) in attendance. Brenda also said that the committee had met at 5:00 pm before the Commission meeting today and that we will have another meeting during the summer to firm up the details. She stated that everyone will receive an updated application for WOE honorees in order for it to be a streamlined. She would like for each Commission member to sell at least ten (10) tickets and everyone encouraged to pass along information to everyone they know regarding women to receive our award.

**Health:** No report.

**Legislative/Legal:** Jennifer Webre reported that the Task Force had three (3) phone calls, all on May 4, 2016, but no voicemail was left in order to return calls. She also stated that she had not received any emails or calls after the PSA's went out last month.

Jennifer also had received information regarding two (2) events to be held in our area. St. Martin Parish Senior Event, "Ageless Expo Fair", June 9, 2016 and May 20, 2016, Community Health Resource Affair 9:00 am to 12:00 pm for Mental Health Month to be held in Scott, Louisiana at the Sheriff's Office Training Center.

**Education:** Marlice Young-Dugas reported that the Night of Hope – Do Tell Freedom Rally for Sexual Assault Awareness month was held at Park San Souci on April 26, 2016 at 6:00 pm. For the first rally, all that attended were very pleased with the rally. It was discussed that we need to start planning earlier in order to partner with other organizations and to have a better attendance next year. Megan suggested having a meeting with organizations we would like to partner with so that they could also spread the word in order to have a better attendance.

Marlice Young-Dugas also reported having connected with the Women's Commission of Southwest Louisiana in Lake Charles. They are having a conference in October that might be good for members to attend. Marlice is waiting for specifics which she will pass on when she receives them.

**Publicity/Public Relations:** Kris Manuel-Sparks stated that all PSA's for the Night of Hope – Do Tell Freedom Rally went out to all media networks and would like to plan earlier next year in hopes of scheduling at least one (1) television appearance.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Survival Kit Drive to be held at Kris Manuel-Sparks house on June 11, 2016, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Kris will provide hamburgers and hot dogs and all Commission members will bring a dish for a potluck dinner. Marlice Young-Dugas will make a flyer with a list of items to be donated that will be sent to each member in order to procure as many items as possible to be put into backpacks. Everyone is asked to try and get as many donations as possible for the backpacks. Discussed where to obtain backpacks and Elsie Jones-Azare stated she thought the Commission should use some of the money that the Commission receives from LCG to purchase backpacks. Elsie and Megan to check into where to purchase the backpacks.
- b. LCNW Newsletter: Megan asked Martha Bryant to put the newsletter together. Megan also asked each member to write a piece (250-300 words) for the newsletter over the summer. Megan would like for the first newsletter to be ready for the Fall Retreat, August 6, 2016.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Connie Lewis with New Steps Reentry for Youth organization in Lake Charles was our guest speaker. She wanted to network with us in trying to bring awareness for youth and adults who have been incarcerated and are reentering society and the problems that they face coming out of prison.

Megan Morris – Fall Retreat tentative date August 6, 2016 to be held at either the Green House or the Art Studio off of Evangeline Thruway. Amy Deaville to let Megan know as soon as one or the other is secured for this date. Motion to accept this date was made by Jennifer Webre and seconded by Peggy Andrus. Passed by unanimous vote.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brenda Andrus -- To check with Tracy Mouton regarding where to purchase new LCNW shirts for current members and new members. Also to order new name plates for new members along with pins for current and new members who do not have one.

Brenda Andrus -- May is Lupus Awareness Month and will have a Meet and Greet/Program at City Hall May 10, 2016 at 5:30 pm. Everyone is invited.

JoAnn LeJune -- Faith House having a three (3) day program for teen girls regarding learning skills in order to have healthy relationships to be held at Golden Corral, Ambassador Caffery Parkway, June 29, 2016 through July 1, 2016 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

JoAnn LeJune -- St. Mary Mother of the Church Bus trip to Eureka Springs and Branson, June 6, 2016 through June 10, 2016. This trip will include much prayer, museums and plays. Anyone interested please contact JoAnn.


Christy Lenchan -- TedX Vermillion Street Organization Challenges, September 10, 2016 5:30 pm at Acadiana Center for the Arts.

Trasima Richard graduates with a doctorate on Friday 13, 2016.

Megan Morris -- Oil Center Renaissance Association (OCRA) to hold Oil Center after Hours May 18 and 25, 2016.

Marlice Young-Dugas -- Senior young man has no money to rent a tuxedo for Prom and asked if anyone interested in donating. Everyone donated and raised \$119.00, a gift card for La Pizzeria for dinner and Megan to purchase a corsage and boutonniere. Peggy Andrus to pick up flowers and deliver to this young man. Thank you everyone for making this young mans' senior prom possible.

Adjourn -- Martha Bryant made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jennifer Webre. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

  
Megan Morris  
President

  
Kris Manuel Sparks  
Recording Secretary

Lafayette Commission on the Needs of Women			
Treasurer's Report		April 2016	
Bank Balance			
2/10/2016 Checking Account Statement Balance			\$ 3817.10
NACW		\$100.00	
ULL Women's Conference		\$25.00	
Megan Morris --- LCNW Gifts, Office Supplies, Mailbox Etc,		\$78.55	
Check Order		\$34.19	
3/10/2016 Checking Account Statement Balance			\$3579.36
BOOK BALANCE			\$3579.36
	Current Balance 3/10/2016		\$3579.36
	Courtesy Fund Balance 3/10/2016		\$155.72
	Courtesy Fund Balance 4/3/2016		\$155.72
Trasima Richard, Treasurer 4/3/2016 Source: Bank Statement 3/10/2016			

Lafayette Commission on the Needs of Women			
Treasurer's Report		May 2016	
Bank Balance			
3/10/2016 Checking Account Statement Balance			\$ 3579.36
Megan Morris --- Reimbursement of LCNW Gifts and Office Supplies,		\$80.57	
4/08/2016 Checking Account Statement Balance			\$3498.79
Outstanding Checks			
#1002 JoAnnn LeJune Reimbursement LNCW Awards		\$75.00	
#1003 Elsie Jones Azare... Courtesy Fund (Death in Family)		\$25.00	
BOOK BALANCE			\$3398.79
	Current Balance 5/4/2016		\$3398.79
	Courtesy Fund Balance 3/10/2016		\$155.72
	Outstanding Check ..... #1003(See above)	\$25	
	Courtesy Fund Balance 5/4/2016		\$130.72
Trasima Richard, Treasurer 5/4/2016 Source: Bank Statement Date 4/8/2016			